



FACT SHEET

USAF Fact Sheet

Wilford Hall Medical Center



MISSION

The 59th Medical Wing (59 MDW) is the Air Force's premier medical facility, located at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas (eight miles southwest of downtown San Antonio). The 59 MDW operates Wilford Hall Medical Center.

Our mission is three pronged: to provide global medical readiness capability and comprehensive peacetime healthcare benefits supported by education, training and research.

PERSONNEL AND RESOURCES

There are more than 4,100 people assigned to the wing. The 59 MDW is organized into a wing headquarters and five medical groups responsible for "product lines," or parts of the mission.

OPERATIONS

Readiness. Most of the wing's military personnel are assigned to one of many readiness teams, which act as building blocks to form air transportable hospitals and a number of specialized units. The wing maintains nearly 3,300 mobility positions. Outreach teams are regularly dispatched all over the globe to respond to emergencies, to assist in Department of Defense contingency missions and to reinforce readiness training through real-world civil assistance missions. The wing conducts a full program of training and drills to ensure it is ready for any contingency.

Healthcare. Wilford Hall is a Level I trauma center. Working closely with Brooke Army Medical Center (located about 15 miles away), the 59 MDW provides a virtually complete spectrum of medical care. Wilford Hall Medical Center has 180 staffed beds, 19 operating rooms and 152 dental treatment rooms.

A typical day at the 59th MDW includes 2,658 patient visits, 9,442 prescriptions dispensed, 40 patients admitted, 35 surgeries performed, 6 babies delivered, 9,285 lab procedures and 2,600 meals served.

The 59MDW is a specialized center for bone marrow transplantation, HIV evaluation and other specialized treatment. The direct patient care mission is fully supported by a complete range of ancillary services such as laboratory, pharmacy and radiology. The wing also participates fully in Tricare and Tricare Prime to provide low-cost referrals to civilian providers as necessary.

Education. The wing's postgraduate medical education function is merged with that of Brooke Army Medical Center. The two facilities, in close cooperation with the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, provide a wide array of training programs ranging from general surgery to healthcare administration.

Training. The 59MDW trains more than 550 Phase II enlisted trainees each year, providing them with hands-on experience after they have completed the classroom portion of their training at another base. Other training includes the TopSTAR program for sustainment training for people with medical specialties whose daily work is not with patients, and a number of other training courses including refresher trauma training and courses for specialized surgical and critical care teams.

Research. The primary focus of the Wing's research program is on meeting the needs of the line as specified in the operational and clinical medicine requirements, and on conducting military unique research and medical readiness training. The program's 550 active research and training protocols result in several hundred publications in peer-reviewed journals and presentations at national meetings per year. Research initiatives include advances in the use of blood substitutes, neonatology, studies of drug effectiveness, and training support for international missions of the Defense Institute for Medical Operations.

Points of Contact: 59 MDW Public Affairs Office, 2200 Bergquist Drive, Ste 1, Lackland AFB, TX 78236-9908, DSN 554-7688 or commercial 210-292-7688.

For more information, access the 59 MDW web site at <https://www.whmc.af.mil>